

**Joseph Havlat** was born in Hobart, Australia, and studied at the Royal Academy of Music in London under Prof. Joanna MacGregor from 2012 -18, where he received his BMus and MMus with distinction, including awards for exceptional merit in studentship and the highest recital mark for a postgraduate pianist. Joseph has performed in major concert venues around the UK and in Europe, America, Japan and Australia as a soloist and as part of chamber groups. In 2019 he was made a Young Artist at St. John's Smith Square where he is to give recitals in the 2020/21 season, and also was awarded the first prize in the keyboard section of the Royal Overseas League Music Competition. The same year he was also made a Young Artist of the Oxford Lieder Festival alongside fellow Australian mezzo-soprano Lotte Betts-Dean, with whom he works regularly in both standard and contemporary Classical spheres. He frequently works as a chamber musician, having performed with musicians such as James Ehnes, Jack Liebeck, William Bennett and Steven Isserlis, and is also a member of the LSO percussion ensemble with whom he has released a CD on the LSO Live label, including the premiere recording of John Adams' two-piano work 'Roll Over Beethoven'. Passionate about modern and contemporary music, he is a founding member and original artistic director of contemporary music collective Ensemble x.y. During his time studying he gave performances of concertos by Ligeti, Messiaen, Stravinsky and others, which has led him to collaborate with such composers as Thomas Adès ('In Seven Days'), Michael Finnissy (Piano concertos), Sir Harrison Birtwistle (Slow Frieze), Gerald Barry and Thomas Larcher. He is also an avid composer, having written for the aforementioned ensembles, and views his compositional work as intrinsic to his musical development and his most important form of artistic expression. Most recently, he appeared with the BBC Philharmonic giving the premiere of Robert Laidlow's piano concerto 'Warp', and also appeared with the LSO in the 2019-20 season playing Adès' 'In Seven Days' under the baton of the composer. Current post-Covid projects include the performance and subsequent recording of all of Finnissy's piano concertos with conductor Jack Sheen, a short album of piano music by William Marsey, and the writing of a song cycle on texts of Australian poet Gwen Harwood.

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